

# On the Water



Volume 19, Issue 3

MARCH 2016



Winners of the chapter's Members Only Contest were presented plaques at the annual Winter Picnic on February 8. Pictured are Marko Brinatte – first place Men's Master's Division and Big Fish of the Year (55.5"), Dave Gustafson – June Lunker of the Month (55"), Eric Bakke – 1st Place Men's Division, Gracie Hartman – 1st Place Women's Division (she chose to compete in the Women's Division rather than the junior Division), Linda Knutson – 2nd Place Women's Master Division, Kathy Keith – 3rd Place Women's Division, Dustan Forschen – 1st Place Hybrid Division, and John Newman – 3rd Place Men's Division.

## Hugh C. Becker Foundation Announces 2016 Grant Awards

The Hugh C. Becker Grant Committee of the Twin Cities chapter of Muskies, Inc. is pleased to announce the recipients of grants for 2016. With these awards, the total of benefits issued since the creation of the foundation in 2008 will be more than \$1,093,000.00.

The order of funding dates for 2016, with amounts totaling \$100,000.00 are:

- To help fund the Minnesota DNR study on the St. Louis River with netting equipment. **FEBRUARY...\$7,000.00**
- To provide funds for heating the St. Paul, MN hatchery facility with matching funds from the Twin Cities Chapter #1 of Muskies, Inc. **FEBRUARY...\$1,000.00**
- To purchase condensate equipment for the St. Paul, MN hatchery facility with matching funds from the Twin Cities Chapter #1 of Muskies, Inc. **FEBRUARY...\$7,000.00**
- To assist the Minnesota Muskie and Pike Alliance (MMPA) in their

### Hugh C. Becker Grants

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## Celebrate Muskies, Inc.'s First 50 Years

Join fellow Muskies, Inc. members in celebrating our first fifty years. Don't miss the 50th Anniversary Celebration Banquet on March 12, 2016 at the Sheraton Minneapolis West across from Ridgedale Center. Doors open at 5:00 pm and dinner is served at 6:30 pm. Cost to attend the banquet is \$50 per person. The deadline to make your reservations is March 4. Make reservations at [www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org/node/203](http://www.twincitiesmuskiesinc.org/node/203).

The banquet promises to be a great event to have a good time and celebrate Muskies, Inc. A hospitality suite, games, raffles, and silent auction are all planned for the evening. Much Muskies Inc. memorabilia and pieces of our history will be on display all day.

The banquet is being held in conjunction with the Muskies, Inc. annual spring board meeting scheduled during the day on Saturday, and the 2016 Hugh C. Becker Muskie Symposium March 13-15.

Our chapter and the North Metro chapter will be hosting the banquet for all Muskies, Inc. members. An event this size will take many volunteers to make it happen. Please consider helping out your chapter during this important event. Help make this an event to remember for a long time. Contact Eric Schultz at [tcmi.president@gmail.com](mailto:tcmi.president@gmail.com) if you can help.

## Muskie Tale for 2015 Season



Roger Ecklund (left) and Dean Roll (right) will share the Muskie Tale Award this year. The tale is a replica of a world-record muskie. They will get to keep the tail and will present it next year for the best "tale".

The chapter's Musky Tale Award was presented at the Awards Program at the February meeting. This year's award will be shared by Dean Roll and Roger Ecklund. Here is the "tale" submitted by Dean:

*Good friends Roger Ecklund, Bob Wagner and I were out fishing early*

*one Saturday morning when I hooked a Monster of a Muskie – massive surface head shakes and a mouth you could put a football in!!*

*Of course I started yelling "Big Fish Big Fish"!! This got my partners moving fast. Bob grabbed for the net and Roger moved towards the other side of the front deck. The fish stayed pinned and I was able to lead her right next to the boat. I leaned out, keeping her away from the gunnel while attempting to move her around the front of the boat.*

*I was facing out of the boat and had no idea what was happening behind me. As Bob grabbed the net, Roger's rods that were laying on the net headed toward the water. With cat-like speed Roger lunged forward with his upper body to grab the rods, causing his butt to go backwards !!*

*Results were that Big Rog gave a perfect NHL hip check which launched me head first right out of the boat, summersaulting over the top of a 54-55 inch Muskie!! I got to see one side of*

*the Muskie, the top and the other side of the giant in one quick swoop!!!*

*When I surfaced I managed to hand the rod back up to Roger just hoping she was still hooked, but she was GONE!! Roger had a really dumb-founded look on his face – or was it a Devilish Grin? That's when I realized my iPhone was in my pocket!!*

*Moral of the Story: Don't EVER try to catch a bigger fish than Roger in his boat. He will have NONE OF THAT GOING ON!!!*

*Roger's comment: When I heard the big splash, I thought the fish was jumping next to the boat. I turned around and saw Dean in the lake looking up at me and asked "What are you doing in the lake"?*

*It is a little easier now to laugh about it, but I'm still really bummed out we lost the fish with that massive head. BTW, I am used to Dean having "the big fish" hooked up and, yes, sometimes in my boat.*

*Also, glad the water was 69 degrees and not 34.*

## Take Advantage of Big Fish Opportunity at Red Wing Lodge

Big fish opportunity is awaiting you at Red Wing Lodge on Lake of the Woods, Canada. The annual Muskie Inc. trip to Red Wing Lodge on Sabaskong Bay, Lake of the Woods, is a great choice for either that first Canadian trip or for the veteran's extra trip.

Make your reservation for the annual August Muskie Inc. outing to Red Wing Lodge. This Big Fish opportunity has been provided for years by the cooperative support of Mike and Anne Bartlett of Red Wing Lodge and our two local Muskie Inc. chapters.

Dates for this year's outing: August 6-13, 2016. Save your surprises for muskie action, you don't need them at base camp. Red Wing Lodge offers a resort base that has been family owned and operated for 50 years, is clean and comfortable, where everything works. The Bartlett family has hosted Muskie Inc. outings for years with personal and friendly service, so they understand what muskie people need and like. Red Wing Lodge is a nine-time Chapter Challenge headquarters. Check out the muskie information, including the Red Wing Lodge Hall of Fame, as well as the first live cam in Morson, at [www.redwinglodge.net](http://www.redwinglodge.net).

Cost per person in housekeeping cabins remains at \$350 (US Funds) for 2016, just \$50.00 per day for big-time Canadian muskie fishing. Reservations require a \$50 non-refundable deposit, made out to Red Wing Lodge. Deposits officially confirm reservation holds. First come, first served.

Included in the full value of the 2016 Muskie Inc. trip:

- Free dockage (\$72 value), free launch (both ways, \$25 value)
- Free dinner one night, and one free trip, given away in drawing, courtesy of the Bartletts
- Free wireless internet service throughout the resort
- Free daily bag of ice
- Door prizes

To make reservations, or any questions or suggestions for improving the trip, contact: John van Ingen, (651) 699-5172 or [maxjo@mac.com](mailto:maxjo@mac.com), 2108 Palace Ave., St. Paul, MN 55105 or John Genosky, (651) 329-4898, [John@Protacinc.com](mailto:John@Protacinc.com), 904 81st St., Lino Lakes, MN 55014.

For answers to detailed questions regarding the Lodge, e.g., about the cabins, you are invited to call Mike and Anne Bartlett toll free at 1-888-488-5601.



## Bucktails for Youth Program

At our February meeting, a group of chapter members assembled bucktails to be used by our Youth Director, Terry Schaar, for the next fishing season for our youth activities. As you can see in the pictures, we had a great assembly line going. Members assisting in this process were: Al Larson, Terry Schaar, Doug Malsom, Kathy Keith, Lane Uherka, Pliny Smith, Matt Olson, Lilly Hartman, and Gracie Hartman. They did excellent work and assembled 85 double 7s and 8s in 45 minutes! A special thanks to Paul Hartman, Hedron Flashabou, and Chapter #1 for donating components.

Remember to take a kid fishing. They could become the next legislator, who supports an outstanding muskie fishery in Minnesota.

## Go Peacock Bass Fishing in the Amazon

Peacock bass is generally considered to be the world's best freshwater fighting fish. Here's your chance to find out (and compare it to the last 50" muskie you caught). A peacock bass fishing trip to the Amazon River, deep in the heart of the Brazilian rain forest, is being organized by former Twin Cities Chapter member Bob Junghans. The adventure, which will take place January 7-14, 2017, will be outfitted by River Plate Anglers out of Manaus, Brazil.

The trip includes 7 days of guided fishing on areas of the Amazon and its tributaries that are exclusively licensed to River Plate Anglers. Lodging is in floating, double-occupancy, air conditioned and wi-fi connected cabins, that are moved multiple times during the trip to assure fishing unpressured water. One night's lodging in Manaus, Brazil, and all meals are included. Cost of the trip is \$5,595.00 per angler. Travel from the U.S. to Manaus, tips for guides and staff (est. \$350.00) and cost related to additional time spent in travel are not included.

Four slots are still remain available. For more information contact Bob Junghans at (612) 812-6060 or bobjung305@gmail.com.

## Win Two Weeks at Red Wing Lodge

The Bartlett family of Red Wing Lodge on Lake of the Woods is sponsoring a fundraiser drawing for chapter member Terrie DuBe who has inoperable cancer. Terrie is well-known in the muskie-fishing world, having served as Muskies, Inc. national



secretary for over seven years, participating in the PMTT on the only all-female team, and guiding on Leech Lake. She was an active member of our chapter and moved to the Leech Lake area several years ago.

The winner of the drawing will get a two week stay for up to four people in a two bedroom housekeeping cabin at Red Wing Lodge. You can stay two weeks in a row, split into two trips, or take over two years. Trips include free boat ramp, free dockage, and Canadian conservation fishing licenses. The winner must attend the trip. It is not transferable.

Donations – a chance in the drawing – are \$25 each or 5 for \$100. 100% of all donations will go to directly to Terrie to offset her medical expenses. Send checks made out to Terrie DuBe with your name, email address, home address and phone number to Terrie DuBe, c/o Red Wing Lodge, Box 1008, Baudette, MN 56623. The winner of the fundraiser drawing will be drawn at the 2016 Gil Hamm Chapter Challenge at Red Wing Lodge on August 26, 2016.

Any and all donations are appreciated. The Bartletts ask that you encourage your friends to participate. Information about Red Wing Lodge can be found at [www.redwinglodge.net](http://www.redwinglodge.net).

## Hugh C. Becker Grants

continued from page 1

political lobbying efforts with the Minnesota State Legislature.

**FEBRUARY...\$8,000.00**

- To continue with assistance to the Minnesota DNR for new equipment for the New London, MN hatchery facility.

**MARCH...\$10,000.00**

- For further funding of muskie "pit-tagging" research on the Mantrap Lakes system through the Park Rapids, MN DNR Fisheries Office.

**MARCH...\$2,000.00**

- To reconstruct the damaged pond at the Hinckley, MN hatchery facility.

**MARCH...\$6,000.00**

- To support the muskie "pit-tagging" research by Mike Habrat and Steve Miro through the Bemidji, MN DNR Fisheries Office.

**MARCH...\$6,000.00**

- To support the muskie "pit-tagging" research on Spirit Lake, IA, through the Upper Great Lakes Chapter #29 of Muskies, Inc.

**APRIL...\$7,000.00**

- To continue with funding for the research by the Wisconsin DNR through the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point (electrofishing, tagging, and tracking).

**APRIL...\$3,000.00**

- To assist the Fox River Valley Chapter #39 of Muskies, Inc. in their support of the Illinois DNR Genetic Research equipment.

**APRIL...\$2,000.00**

- To fund the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks for their efforts in establishing additional muskellunge fisheries in Eastern South Dakota waters.

**APRIL...\$4,700.00**

- To provide partial funding for a microscope for the Youth Conservation Alliance (YCA) for educational purposes.

**MAY...\$1,000.00**

- To supply additional funds to the Youth Conservation Alliance (YCA) for their programs at Hayward, WI.

**MAY...\$4,000.00**

- To support the Minnesota State High School Muskie-Fishing program through the North Metro Chapter #21 of Muskies, Inc.

**MAY...\$2,800.00**

- To match funding of the Minnesota State High School Muskie-Fishing program through the Twin Cities Chapter #1 of Muskies, Inc.

**MAY...\$2,500.00**

- To provide funding for the Turning Leaf Youth Project by the Between the Lakes Chapter #20 of Muskies, Inc.

**JUNE...\$3,000.00**

- To help fund the Youth & Fish programs of the St. Cloud Chapter #37 of Muskies, Inc.

**JUNE...\$2,000.00**

- To assist the stocking efforts of the Green Bay Chapter #4 of Muskies, Inc.

**AUGUST...\$1,500.00**

- To continue the funding to Muskies Canada in their restoration of muskellunge project at Lake Simcoe.

**AUGUST...\$5,000.00**

- To assist the stocking efforts of the Penn/New Jersey Chapter #50 of Muskies, Inc.

**AUGUST...\$2,500.00**

- To help fund stocking muskies through the 12 Apostles Musky Club of Wisconsin.

**SEPTEMBER...\$4,000.00**

- To help fund stocking muskies through the Consolidated Musky Club of Wisconsin.

**SEPTEMBER...\$3,000.00**

- To provide funding for stocking muskies through Bill's Musky Club of Wisconsin.

**SEPTEMBER...\$2,000.00**

- To assist the stocking efforts of the Fox River Valley Chapter #39 of Muskies, Inc.

**SEPTEMBER...\$3,000.00**



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# next meeting

**MARCH 8**

**SPEAKER:**

**LARRY RAMSELL**

*Larry is a past President of Muskies Inc, has written or co-authored ten books on muskie fishing history and muskie fishing records, and has amassed probably the largest muskie information library. He has been fishing all over the muskie range, and witnessed the chapter's largest fish of 2007, a 56" Saint Lawrence fish, now a replica which rotates in the chapter's booth at sports shows. Lake Vermilion is a favorite of Larry's, and he leads a group of a hundred or more anglers to Vermilion Dam Lodge every Fall. Bring your questions about Vermilion, history, World Record controversy – anything else muskie related for Larry.*

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*Muskies Inc. Twin Cities Chapter General Meetings are held at 7:00 pm the second Tuesday of every month at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 1114 American Boulevard West, Bloomington, MN (just off I-494 & Lyndale Ave.).*



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## **Thank Our Sponsors**

*A big thank you to all the manufacturers, retailers and resorts that have helped the Twin Cities chapter in the past year by donating merchandise and trips used for prizes at our Banquet and Tournaments as well as at the welcome table at each meeting.*

*Please make an effort to support our sponsors so they have an incentive to keep on supporting us. Without them this chapter could not do what it does for the resource and its members.*

*If you're looking for a new bait, remember that manufacturers of some of the most productive baits ever designed are among our sponsors. And remember to buy them from sponsoring retailers. If you're looking for a muskie trip, keep the sponsoring resorts in mind.*

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Frankie's Live Bait & Marine	Musky Mayhem Tackle		
Gary's Custom Rod & Reel	Musky Mercenary Guide Service – Matt Seifert		

## Thanks to the Sponsors Who Donate to the Twin Cities Chapter

A big thank you to all the manufacturers, retailers and resorts that have helped the Twin Cities chapter in the past year by donating merchandise and trips used for incentives and prizes for our fundraising events as well as the prizes for the welcome table at each meeting. You will see ads from our sponsors who have made major donations to our chapter in the newsletter throughout the year. The sponsors with ads here have made major donations to the chapter of products, gift certificates, guide trips, and resort stays for our banquet, tournaments and welcome table. The ads are one of the ways we thank them.

Please consider these resorts and/or guides when you are planning a fishing trip or just a day of fishing in the metro area. If you're looking for a new bait, keep in mind that manufacturers of some of the most productive baits ever designed are among our sponsors. And remember to buy them from sponsoring retailers. If you're in the stores, please tell them thank you from our chapter.

Please make an effort to support our sponsors so they have an incentive to keep on supporting us. Without them this chapter could not do what it does for the muskie resource and its members.



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